



# Data Protection Policy

## Data Protection Policy

### 1 Policy Statement

- 1.1 Oakfield School collects and use personal information about staff, pupils, parents, and other individuals who come into contact with the school. We use this personal information to provide education and for functions associated with the running of our school.
- 1.2 We are registered as a Data Controller with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO). Details of the information we hold are the purpose we use it for can be found on the ICO's online Data Protection Register at: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

### 2 Purpose

- 2.1 The policy is intended to ensure we collect information fairly, use it lawfully and keep it safe to comply with the Data Protection Act. This policy applies to any information we hold that relates to identifiable living persons.
- 2.2 All employees, governors, contractors, agents, volunteers, and temporary staff must work in accordance with this policy and associated guidance.

### 3 The Data Protection/GDPR Principles

- 3.1 The Data Protection Act contains 8 principles that we must comply with:
  - The processing of personal data must be lawful, fair, and transparent.
  - Personal data shall only be collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and will not be used in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.
  - Personal data shall be adequate, relevant, and not excessive.
  - Personal data shall be accurate and where necessary, kept up to date.
  - Personal data must be kept for no longer than is necessary for the purpose of which it is processed.
  - Personal data must be processed in a manner that includes taking appropriate security measures as regards risks that arise from processing personal data.

3.2 Unless there is an exemption within the Data Protection Act or other legislation, we will do the following to comply with these principles:

- Explain why we are collecting information and how it will be used at the point we first collect it.
- Share information with others only when it is lawful to do so and, whenever possible, with the consent of the person(s) it related to.
- Take extra care in our processing of sensitive personal data which includes information about physical or mental health, religion, race and criminal convictions and proceedings.
- Avoid using personal information for any new or substantially change purposes which were not explained at the point the information was first collected.
- Check the quality and the accuracy of the personal information we hold and act quickly to correct details that are found to be inaccurate.
- Ensure information is not retained for longer than is necessary.
- Ensure that we dispose of information which is no longer required in a safe and secure manner.
- Ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect personal information from loss, theft, damage, unauthorised access, unauthorised disclosure, or unplanned destruction.
- Ensure we have effective procedures to deal with requests from anyone who asks for a copy of the information we hold about them.
- Ensure our staff understand our policies and procedures and are provided with appropriate data protection training.
- Confirm the identity of persons who contact us before we disclose any personal information to them.
- Use appropriate methods to send personal information to their parties to ensure it safely reaches the destination.
- Investigate any known or suspected information security breaches and take steps to address any risks which are identified.
- Obtain assurances from our suppliers and contractors on their data protection and information security standards before allowing them to access the personal information we hold.

## 4 Compliance

- 4.1 All staff and governors must work in accordance with the policy and associated guidance. Where a staff member does not comply with our policy there may be extremely serious consequences for the people whose data we hold and for the school. For this reason, any failure of a member of staff to comply with the policy will be considered a disciplinary matter which may lead to dismissal.
- 4.2 Staff must remember that they can be prosecuted for breaching data protection laws. Offences include accessing, obtaining, or disclosing information without the data controller's permission and selling, or offering to sell, personal information which has been obtained illegally.

## 5 Complaints

- 5.1 Complaints and concerns relating to our use of personal information will be taken seriously and will be dealt with in accordance with our complaints policy. Where the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome, they may contact the Information Commissioner's Office.

## 6 Review

- 6.1 The policy will be reviewed at least every 3 years. The review will be undertaken by the Headteacher, or their nominated representative. The guidance which supports this policy will be updated as required and will be communicated to all staff, governors, and any other relevant persons with access to personal data held by the school.

## 7 Contact

- 7.1 If you have any enquires in relation to this policy, please contact Sam Hodgson (Data Protection Officer) who will also act as the contact point for any requests for personal and educational information held by the school.

## **Appendix 1**

### **1 Rights of Access to Information**

- 1.1 Any persons can request access to their personal information which is held by the school in accordance with the Data Protection Act. This is known as a Subject Access Request or SAR. There is a separate process for accessing a pupil's educational record in accordance with the Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005, please refer to Appendix 2.

### **2 Subject Access Requests**

- 2.1 Requests for information must be made in writing (this can include email).

- 2.2 Requests should be address to:

Mr Sam Hodgson  
Data Protection Officer  
Oakfield School  
Hopewell Road  
Hull  
HU9 4HD

- 2.3 Requests will be answered within 30 calendar days, however this period will not begin, or may be suspended, until:

- the identity of the applicant has been clearly established (the school reserves the right to request sight of identity documents such as passport or driving licence); and
- any clarification the school requests on what information is required is provided by the applicant.

- 2.4 Any individual may request access to information held about them. However, for children this depends upon their capacity to understand and to take informed decisions about themselves (normally from around the age of 12). The Headteacher or their representative will discuss any request involving a child's records with the child and take their views into account when deciding on whether information should be disclosed.

- 2.5 A child with competency to understand can refuse to allow a request for their records, even if it is made by their parent or guardian. Where the child is not deemed to be competent an individual with parental responsibility or their guardian shall make the decision on behalf of the child.

### **3 Complaints**

- 3.1 Complaints about Subject Access Requests should be made to the Chair to the Governing Body who will decide whether the complaint may be dealt with in accordance with the school's complaints procedure.
- 3.2 Complaints that cannot be dealt with through the school's complaints procedure can be considered by the Information Commissioner's Office. We will include details of how to complain where we respond to Subject Access Requests.

## **Appendix 2 – Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005**

### **1 The Regulations**

- 1.1 Under these regulations, the Governing Body of the school must make a pupil's educational record available for inspection by the parent, free of charge, within 15 school days of the parent's written request for access to that record.
- 1.2 The school must also provide a copy of the record if requested to do so in writing 15 days school days. The school may charge a fee not exceeding the cost of supply.
- 1.3 The meaning of parent is wider than the definition of who has parental responsibility. Parent means a person with parental responsibility or who has care of the child. Therefore, where a child is living with grandparents, the grandparents have a right to see the child's educational record even though they may not have parental responsibility which would allow them, for example, to change the child's name.
- 1.4 Parents have a right to access their child's data under the Pupil Information Regulations and the child cannot prevent this. These Regulations only cover information in the official pupil record.

### **2 Exemptions**

- 2.1 A school must not communicate anything to the parent which it could not communicate to the pupil under the Data Protection Act. Also, the school must be mindful of other individuals' rights under the Data Protection Act which might be infringed. For example, where a pupil's parent has divorced and the record contains letters from the pupil's mother, consideration must be given to whether these should be removed from the record before it is shared with the father.

### **3 Exemptions**

- 3.1 Every parent is entitled to receive an annual report in respect of his or her child. Parents also have the right to decide to discuss the content of the report with the child's teacher. This right remains even if a child no longer lives with the parent, providing that parent has parental responsibility.

## Appendix 3 – Information Security Incidents

### 1 Information Security and Data Breach Procedure

- 1.1 We must keep our information safe. This is particularly true of the personal information we hold about our pupils, their families, our employees and third parties. However, all our data is important, and this procedure applies to any confidential information including details about finance and banking, security arrangements, business matters, contracts, and procurement processes.
- 1.2 It is important that our employees understand what to do if something goes wrong and our information is put at risk. All employees must report any known or possible incidents where information or the files/systems containing them has:
- been lost or stolen.
  - been sent or disclosed to another party in error.
  - been sent without adequate security protection or safeguards.
  - been accessed by someone who does not have permission to do so (including our staff and pupils).
  - become unavailable for an extended period due to problems with our computers or IT network.
  - become unavailable due to fire, flood, or other problems with our buildings.
  - been the target of any attempt to ‘hack’ our computers systems, including malicious emails.
  - been the target of any attempt to gain access to information by deception (this is known as ‘blagging’).
  - been processed in any way that breaches the Data Protection Policy or other policies governing how Oakfield School manages its information.

### 2 Incident Response

- 2.1 Where somebody may be at immediate risk of harm a senior member of school staff must be informed **immediately** and all reasonable steps must be taken to warn the individual(s) without delay. In such circumstance’s consideration should also be given to contacting the Police.
- 2.2 In the event or any known or suspected breach of information security the following steps must be taken:
- 2.2.1 The staff member who identifies the breach must notify the School Business Manager, Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher immediately. If the incident is discovered outside the school’s opening hours, it must be reported as soon as it reopens. If an incident is considered particularly serious, (for example if someone may be at risk of physical



harm or lots of records have been compromised the incident should be reported immediately by contacting Safeguarding at Oakfield School.

Jayne Oakley or Leanne Middleton

- 2.3 The staff member handling the incident must:
  - 2.3.1 Establish whether information is still being put at risk. If so, steps must be taken to secure it immediately – for example contact the IT Supplier to shut down a compromised system or arrange for a security company to board up a door or window.
  - 2.3.2 Decide if, when and how any individuals affected by the incident will be notified and what advice they should be provided with.
  - 2.3.3 Where possible, and safe to do so, attempt to recover lost or stolen information or equipment.
  - 2.3.4 Report any criminal activity and lost or stolen property to the Police.
  - 2.3.5 Have school staff immediately change any passwords or access codes that may have been compromised and warn them if they might expect phishing emails or other malware to be sent to them.
  - 2.3.6 Notify the Headteacher and Chair of Governors in a timely manner, they should be informed quickly about more serious incidents.
  - 2.3.7 Where the information could aid fraudulent activity, consider the need to notify banks or companies and organisations we work with.
  - 2.3.8 Take any steps to recover data from back-ups or copies held elsewhere.
  - 2.3.9 Consider any possible impact on the running of the school, take steps to inform any affected parties and mitigate the impact upon them.
  - 2.3.10 If the incident may be newsworthy, consider the need to take media relations advice, for example from the Council's Media Team.
  - 2.3.11 Where extremely sensitive personal data, or large volumes of less sensitive personal data, has been compromised it may be appropriate to report the breach to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). From May 2018 serious incidents must be reported within 72 hours. Guidance is available on the [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) website or the ICO telephone helpline.
  - 2.3.12 Keep records that will demonstrate what has happened and assist an investigation into what went wrong.

- 2.4 The Council's Information Governance Team will help with response to data breach and information security incidents. They can be contacted for advice on (01482) 613295 or (01482) 613378, or email: [information@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:information@hullcc.gov.uk)
- 2.5 Staff should note that it is the policy of Oakfield School to pursue serious disciplinary measures against staff who make genuine human errors but any failure to report or attempt to hide an information security incident will be dealt with extremely seriously.

### **3 Investigation**

- 3.1 One the initial response to the incident has taken place it is important that the full circumstances are thoroughly investigated. This should be done promptly to ensure that any ongoing risks can be identified and addressed.
- 3.2 The investigation should be undertaken by a staff member nominated by the Headteacher; this can be the person who dealt with the initial incident response.
- 3.3 The investigation should include consideration of the following:
- What data was compromised, including numbers of records and their sensitivity.
  - What happened, where appropriate including a chronology of events.
  - Review existing safeguards and procedures, how effective they were and any additional measures that could be put in place.
  - Known or potential adverse impacts on data subjects and any advice or support that should be provided to them.
  - Any breaches of policy or procedure and how these should be addressed.
  - Any HR or disciplinary action that may be necessary.
  - Costs and any likely financial implications for the school.
  - Potential for any ongoing illegal or unauthorised use of the data.
  - Consideration of any issues and whether the matter was reported to the ICO.
  - Any Data Protection Act offences relating to knowingly or recklessly obtaining or disclosing personal data that may need to be reported to ICO or the Police.
  - Any warnings or issues that should be shared with the local partners such as other schools and academies or the council.

#### **4 Review**

- 4.1 The staff member nominated to undertake the investigation should present their report to the Headteacher. Where further action is recommended it should be agreed who will be responsible and set timescales for any actions.
- 4.2 The Headteacher or a nominated member of staff will provide a summary of any incidents to the Chair of Governors once each school year.